

NORMAN J. KENNARD Direct Dial: 717.255.7627 nkennard@thomaslonglaw.com

January 16, 2013

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Via Federal Express

Federal Communications Commission Wireline Competition Bureau U.S. Bank Government Lockbox #979091 SL-MO-C2-GL 1005 Convention Plaza St. Louis, MO 63101

Re: In the Matter of the Application for Streamlined Consent to Transfer Control By

The Middle Point Home Telephone Company; Docket No.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and seven (7) copies of the above-noted Application for filing with the Commission, as well as our check in the amount of \$1,050.00, representing the filing fee thereto.

Please return a time-stamped copy of the Application in the enclosed self-addressed and stamped envelope as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

THOMAS, LONG, NIESEN & KENNARD

By

Norman J. Kennard

Enclosures

cc:

Lonnie Pederson

Mitchell Cox, Esquire

Bruce Schoenberger, Esquire

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REMITTANCE ADVICE FORM 159

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Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
THE MIDDLE POINT HOME)	WC Docket No.
TELEPHONE COMPANY)	
)	
Application for Authority to Transfer)	
Control of Blanket Domestic Section 214)	
Authorization)	

APPLICATION FOR STREAMLINED CONSENT TO TRANSFER CONTROL

Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"), and Section 63.04 of the Commission's Rules, this Application seeks the consent of the Federal Communications Commission (the "Commission") to the transfer of control of the Domestic Section 214 Authority of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company ("MHTC" or the "Applicant," FRN: 0005-0660-63) from MHTC to Telephone Service Company ("TSC" or the "Transferee," FRN: 0002-9247-51).

MHTC is an Ohio incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") that serves one local exchange (approximately 500 access lines) in and around the municipality of Middle Point in Van Wert County, Ohio. The proposed transaction will be accomplished by the merger of MHTC with and into Middle Point Acquisition Co., an Ohio Corporation ("MPAC") that is wholly-owned by TSC, an Ohio corporation that is wholly owned by Hanson Communications, Inc., a Minnesota Corporation ("Hanson"). Upon consummation of the merger, MHTC will

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 214.

² 47 C.F.R. § 63.04(a).

become a wholly-owned subsidiary of TSC. MHTC and TSC seek streamlined processing of this Application pursuant to Section 63.03 of the Commission's Rules.³

In support of this Application, Applicant submits the following information:

(1) Name, address and telephone number of each applicant:

For the Applicant:

The Middle Point Home Telephone Company 106½ E. Jackson Street
Post Office Box 41
Middle Point, OH 45863
Attn: Chad Pollock

Telephone: 419-968-2000

For the Transferee:

Telephone Service Company 2 Willipie Street Post Office Box 408 Wapakoneta, OH 45895 Attn: Lonnie D. Pedersen

Telephone: 419-739-2200

(2) Government, state or territory under the laws of which each corporate or partnership applicant is organized:

MHTC is a corporation organized under the laws of Ohio.

TSC is a corporation organized under the laws of Ohio.

(3) Name, title, post office address and telephone number of the officer or contact person to whom correspondence concerning the application is to be addressed:

	Address	With a Copy to:
Applicant	The Middle Point Home Telephone	Norman J. Kennard, Esquire
	Company	Thomas, Long, Niesen & Kennard
	106½ E. Jackson Street	212 Locust Street, Suite 500
	Post Office Box 41	Harrisburg, PA 17101
	Middle Point, OH 45863	Telephone: 717-255-7627
	Attn: Chad Pollock	_
	Telephone: 419-968-2000	

³ 47 C.F.R. § 63.03.

Transferee	Telephone Service Company	Norman J. Kennard, Esquire
	2 Willipie Street	Thomas, Long, Niesen & Kennard
	Post Office Box 408	212 Locust Street, Suite 500
	Wapakoneta, OH 45895	Harrisburg, PA 17101
Out of the second	Attn: Lonnie D. Pedersen	Telephone: 717-255-7627
	Telephone: 419-739-2200	_

(4) Name, address, citizenship and principal business of any person or entity that directly or indirectly owns at least ten (10) percent of the equity of MHTC, and the percentage of equity owned by each of those persons or entities:

MHTC Prior to Transaction:

The name, address, citizenship and principal business of the only persons or entities that presently own at least ten (10) percent of the equity of MHTC:

(1) Name:

Chad Pollock

Address:

1106 Linden Drive, Van Wert, OH 45891

Citizenship:

United States of America

Principal Business:

Insurance

Ownership:

14.7%

(2) Name:

Kristie L. Snyder

Address:

14227 US Route 224 East United States of America

Citizenship: Principal Business:

Medical Services

Ownership:

14.6%

MHTC After Transaction

The name, address, citizenship and principal business of the only entity that will own at least ten (10) percent of the equity of MHTC after completion of the proposed transaction is:

Name:

Telephone Service Company

Address:

2 Willipie Street

Post Office Box 408

Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Citizenship:

Ohio Corporation

Principal Business:

Telecommunications

Ownership:

100%

The name, address, citizenship and principal business of the only entity that will own at least ten (10) percent of the equity of TSC after completion of the proposed transaction is:

Name:

Hanson Communications, Inc.

Address:

1700 Technology Drive, Suite 100

Willmar, MN 56201

Citizenship:

Minnesota Corporation

Principal Business:

Telecommunications

Ownership:

100%

Mark A. Hanson (27.44%), Bruce C. Hanson (24.78%) and Susan K. Anderson (24.78%) are the three largest shareholders of Hanson and each are U.S. citizens whose principal business is Telecommunications. They may be contacted at the following addresses:

Bruce C. Hanson c/o Hanson Communications, Inc. 1700 Technology Drive, Suite 100 Willmar, MN 56201

Mark A. Hanson c/o Telephone Service Company 2 Willipie Street Post Office Box 408 Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Susan K. Anderson c/o Hanson Communications, Inc. 1700 Technology Drive, Suite 100 Willmar, MN 56201

(5) Certification pursuant to 46 C.F.R. Sections 1.2001 through 1.2003 that no party to the application is subject to denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988:

MHTC and TSC hereby certify, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Sections 1.2001 through 1.2003, that no party to the present Application is subject to denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. The Certifications of MHTC and TSC are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

6. Description of the Transaction:

On January 3, 2013, TSC, MHTC, MPAC and certain shareholders of MHTC executed an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Agreement"). Under that Agreement, the parties agreed that (a) MPAC will be merged with and into MHTC in accordance with the General Corporation Law of the State of Ohio, (b) the separate existence of MPAC will cease and MHTC will continue as the surviving corporation as a wholly owned subsidiary of TSC, and (c) the outstanding shares of MHTC will be converted into the right to receive cash in an amount to be determined by a formula under the Agreement. The obligations of the parties to close and consummate the Agreement is expressly subject to the approval of the Commission. No shareholder other than TSC will own any equity interest in MHTC following this transaction.

7. Description of the geographic areas in which the transferor and transferee (and their affiliates) offer domestic telecommunications services, and what services are provided in each area:

A map of the local exchange telephone service area in Ohio of MHTC and TSC is attached as Exhibit B. The MHTC service area is located in Van Wert County, Ohio, while the TSC service area is located in Auglaize and Allen Counties in Ohio. There is no overlap between the MHTC service area and the TSC service area.

MHTC

MHTC is an ILEC that provides local exchange telephone service, long distance service, exchange access services, high-speed data services, and digital subscriber line high-speed Internet access services within an approximate 56 square mile area in and about Middle Point, Ohio. MHTC serves approximately Five Hundred (500) access lines in one local exchange area situated within Van Wert County, Ohio.

TSC

TSC is an ILEC that provides local exchange telephone service, long distance service, exchange access services, high-speed data services, and digital subscriber line high-speed Internet access services within an approximate 82 square mile area in and about Wapakoneta and Cridersville, Ohio. TSC serves approximately Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty (6,250) access lines in two local exchange areas situated within Auglaize and Allen Counties in Ohio.

<u>MPAC</u>

MPAC is a corporation formed under the laws of the State of Ohio for the purpose of facilitating the transaction described herein. MPAC currently provides no telecom services whatsoever and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of TSC.

8. Statement as to how the application fits into one or more of the presumptive streamlined categories in Section 63.03 or why it is otherwise appropriate for streamlined treatment.

Applicant believes that this Application is entitled to streamlined processing pursuant to Section 63.03(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's Rules. First, both before and after completion of the proposed transaction, TSC will have a market share in the interstate, interexchange market of less than 10 percent. Second TSC only currently serves Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty (6,250) access lines, therefore, the approximate Six Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty (6,750) access line equivalents that will be served by TSC following the proposed transaction will constitute a very small fraction of the amount of end-user switched access lines that constituted two percent of the nation's estimated end-user switched access lines as of the most recently available statistics of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Finally, the MHTC service area does not overlap with, and is not adjacent to the service area of TSC.

9. Identification of all other Commission applications related to the same transaction.

No other Commission applications will be filed with respect to this transaction. MHTC does not have an International Section 214 Authorization.

10. Statement of whether the Applicants are requesting special consideration because either party to the transaction is facing imminent business failure.

No party to this transaction is facing imminent business failure at this time. Therefore, the Applicant is not requesting special consideration because a party to the transaction is facing imminent business failure.

11. Identification of any separately filed waiver requests being sought in conjunction with the transaction.

No separately-filed waivers or waiver requests are being sought in conjunction with the proposed transaction.

12. Statement showing how grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity, including any additional information that may be necessary to show the effect of the proposed transaction on competition in domestic markets.

The proposed transaction will serve the public interest by ensuring the continued availability of quality telecommunications services at affordable rates for the businesses and residents of the areas served by MHTC. TSC will operate MHTC in a manner virtually transparent to its customers, by continuing to provide the same services at the same rates, terms and conditions. Through TSC, MHTC will have greater access to economies of scale and scope, as well as to substantial financial, human, engineering, technical, marketing and information resources. Access to these economies and resources will enable MHTC to make the

infrastructure investments and operational adjustments necessary for MHTC to compete successfully in the rapidly changing telecommunications industry.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the public interest, convenience and necessity would be furthered by a grant of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS, LONG, NIESEN & KENNARD

By:

Norman J. Kennard, Esquire 2 Locust Street, Suite 500 Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 255-7627 (telephone) (717) 236-8278 (facsimile) nkennard@thomaslonglaw.com

Counsel to The Middle Point Home Telephone Company Telephone Service Corporation

Date: January 16, 2013

EXHIBIT A

CERTIFICATION

I, Chad Pollock, President of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company, hereby certify that no party to this Application is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 853(a).

Chad Pollock, President

The Middle Point Home Telephone Company

CERTIFICATION

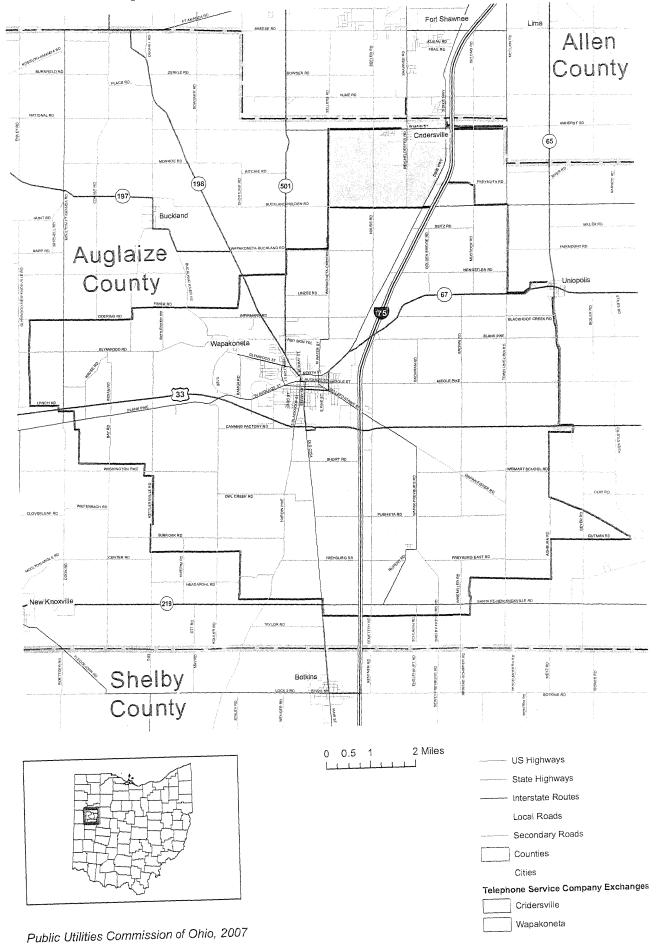
I, Lonnie D. Pedersen, Chief Operating Officer of Telephone Service Company, hereby certify that no party to this Application is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 853(a).

Lonnie D. Pedersen, Chief Operating Officer

Telephone Service Company

EXHIBIT B

Telephone Service Company



Middle Point Home Telephone Company

